女子
義経妻名(牛若丸)
円成妻名(乙若丸)
全成妻名(今若丸)
源義朝
範頼
希義
義門
頼朝
頼長
義平

遮那王 義経

Title Design / Ikuko Miyano

遮那王 義経 ③

SAWADA HIROFUMI
沢田ひろふみ

MONTHLY SHONEN MAGAZINE COMICS

KCGM799
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鞍馬の山に入った漂太の完全抹殺を目論み、刺客を送り込んだ清盛。そしてそれは大きな事件への発端となった。しかし、漂太の透徹した視線は清盛の悪意をも凌駕する。

MONTHLY SHONEN MAGAZINE COMICS

沢田ひろふみ作品

遮那王 — 義経 — 1〜11
山賊王 1〜6
以下続刊

2001年8月

2001年10月

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SHANA OH YOSHITSUNE

by SAWADA Hirofumi /沢田 ひろふみ

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遮那王 義経

沢田ひろふみ

Story so far:

One day, the "Nokishita Group", a group of traveling acrobats who have neither relatives nor friends, suddenly gets invited to the residence of the noble Fujiwara Naganari as performers. There, Hyouta sees a boy, Ushiwakamaru, who looks almost identical to him. Ushiwaka was being held in confinement by the most powerful and influential official of the time, Taira no Kiyomori, and had never once stepped out of the mansion in his life. In order to fulfill Ushiwaka's dream of leaving the mansion to see the outside world, Hyouta is used as a substitute for him as Ushiwaka sneaks out with the Nokishita Group. After she finds out Hyouta has no parents, Ushiwaka's mother, Tokiwa Gozen, decides to love and care for Hyouta like a mother.

YOU ARE HEREBY FORBIDDEN TO HAVE ANY CONNECTION WITH THE WORLD FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE!!
YOU WILL GO TO THE MOUNTAIN TEMPLE AND LIVE THE LIFE OF A MONK.
MOTHER
IF I'M THE ONE THAT HE'S AFTER— WHEN I'M ALONE, THE ASSASSIN MIGHT SHOW HIMSELF!

However, Kiyomori feels threatened by the presence of Ushiwaka, who is actually Hyouta acting as a substitute. He sets up a trap for Lady Tokiwa and succeeds in banishing Ushiwaka to the temple in the mountains—he will live the life of a monk for the rest of his life. In order to save Lady Tokiwa, Ushiwaka agrees to Kiyomori's order and begins his way to Kurama Temple. But when it becomes evident that someone is plotting to take Ushiwaka (Hyouta)'s life, Unshiwaka runs deep into the mountains hoping to fight one-on-one with the assassin alone. However, in the forest, he unexpectedly encounters Tengu, who calls himself the Goho-Mao-Son After Tengu teaches him the fundamentals of martial arts, the real enemy appears!

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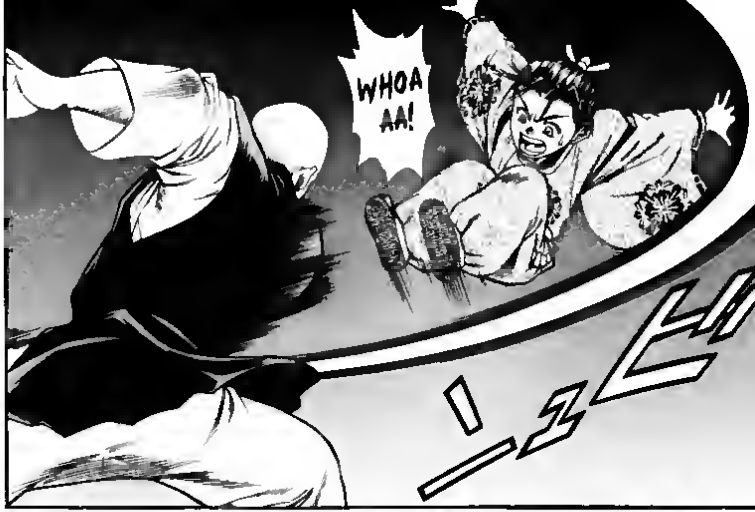
THIS IS A WORK OF FICTION. IT HAS NO CONNECTION
TO EXISTING INDIVIDUALS, ORGANIZATIONS OR EVENTS.

Chapter 8: Assassin

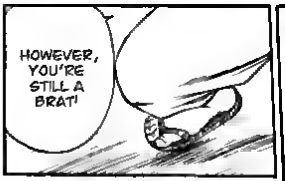
YOU ARE...
YOU...
I'M HERE TO TAKE YOUR LIFE.
SHUUKEN-SAN!!
YOU... WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS?

I'VE DECIDED TO NOT BEAT AROUND THE BUSH
AND WILL PERSONALLY SEND YOU TO THE UNDERWORLD, USHIWAKA!!
THERE'S NO USE IN ASKING.
Pull


WHOA AA!
ヒュー

I would have borrowed a blade from Tengu had I known about this earlier.
WHAT SHOULD I DO? I DON'T EVEN HAVE ANY WEAPONS!!

Huff


HOWEVER, YOU'RE STILL A BRAT!

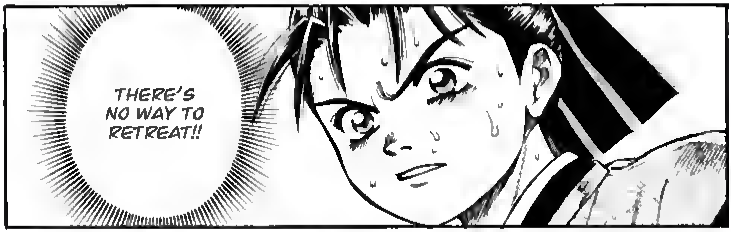
SUCH AGILITY.
HMPH!

……
!!!
ダン
ダン
ドシュ
パシュ

He... He's much faster than me!!
ギリ
ギリ
GIVE UP THIS HOPELESS STRUGGLE, THERE'S NO WAY YOU CAN ESCAPE FROM ME

EEEK!
!!
THIS IS BAD! AIR COMBAT PUTS ME AT MORE OF A DISADVANTAGE

DAMN IT!
A CLIFF!!


THERE'S
NO WAY TO
RETREAT!!

Lift...

HE'S COMING!!
HE...

ゴゴゴゴゴ
I'M TOAST! I CAN'T ESCAPE!!

WHERE ARE YOU?
USHI-WAKAA AA!
Teacher, I looked every-where but I couldn't find him!
COULD YOU FIND HIM? KICCHOU-MARU?
COULD HE HAVE GOTTEN LOST IN THE INNER SANCTUARY?
TERRIBLE THINGS ARE GOING TO HAPPEN IF WE CAN'T FIND HIM SOON!
SOMEONE INTENDS TO TAKE USHI-WAKA'S LIFE
INNER SANC-TUARY!

With... with this kind of opponent... What should I do...?!
Don't look into his eyes!
RIGHT... JUST LIKE THE TIME I WAS FIGHTING THE VIPER!!
DON'T LOOK INTO HIS EYES— FOCUS ON HIS ENTIRE BODY AND PREDICT HIS NEXT MOVE!
HE'S JUST A NORMAL HUMAN! HE'S NOT HUGE OR ANYTHING!
I SAW IT!

DON'T BEAR A GRUDGE AGAINST ME...
IT'S NOT MY INTENTION TO TAKE YOUR LIFE IN THIS SACRED MOUNTAIN
HOWEVER, A PUNY NOBLE CLAN LIKE US CAN ONLY BLINDLY FOLLOW THE ORDER OF "THAT PERSON."

IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE HOUSES THAT HAVE BEEN PASSED DOWN FROM MY ANCES-TORS,
AND FOR MY CLAN TO SURVIVE, I CAN ONLY CHOOSE TO STAIN MY HANDS WITH BLOOD.
SO BEHAVE YOURSELF ACCEPT THIS JUDGMENT. GO TO THE AFTERLIFE!
FOUND IT!

DIE, USHI-WAKA!!
His...
weakness...

ザシャッ
カッ
THIS IS THE PLACE!

GAA
AAAA
HHH
HHH
!!!

GAAA AAHH!!
THIS... THIS BRAT!!
STING
CRASH
KER-CHACK
KER-CHACK
KER-CHACK

WHAT A POWERFUL MURDEROUS AURA! IF I ACT CARELESSLY, HE MIGHT KILL ME!
Gulp
Tengu!!
WHO... WHO IS THIS?
WHO DARES WANDER INTO MY REALM?!
THE ONE WITH INJURED LEG, WHO ARE YOU?!

IT'LL BE BAD IF I CAUSE A SCENE HERE AND ATTRACT PEOPLE'S ATTENTION!
SHIT!
HEY...
DAMN!
ズルズル
HEY! TENGU!!
IF YOU WERE HERE THE WHOLE TIME, WHY DIDN'T YOU HELP ME?!
ヘナヘナ
ペたっ
TO THE POINT OF CRYING OUT LOUD...
WAS SCARED TO DEATH...
I...I...

FSS
SHH-

SO AN-
NOYING
USHIWAKA!! DID YOU STAB HIS LEG BY CHANCE?
AHHH, I PEED IN MY PANTS

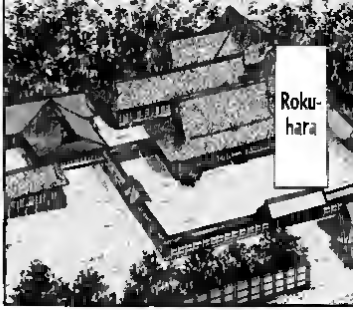
HE REALLY POSSESSES THE TALENT TO STUDY MARTIAL ARTS!
HMM... TO HAVE SPOTTED HIS WEAKNESS TO INFLICT INJURY ONTO HIS OPPONENT,

I AIMED FOR THAT SPOT...
SINCE HIS LEG WAS THE PART OF HIS BODY THAT WAS CLOSEST TO ME,
DIDN'T YOU TELL ME TO OBSERVE HIS WHOLE BODY?

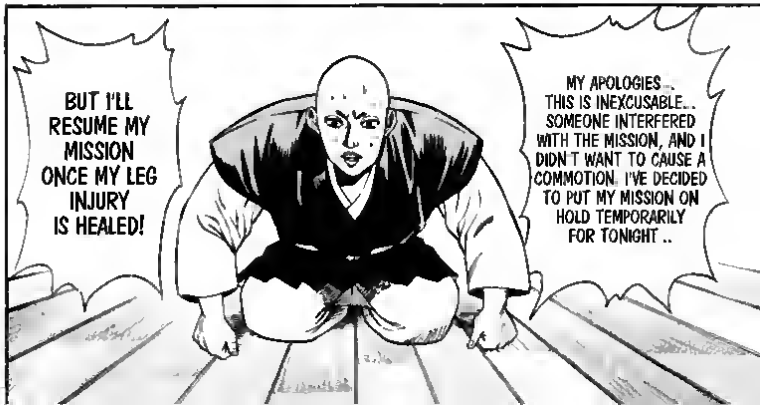
HEYYYY! USHIWAKA!!
WHERE ARE YOU?
SO DON'T FORGET THE FAVOR TODAY, USHIWAKA!
YOU WERE SAVED BECAUSE YOU WERE FOLLOWING MY GUIDANCE, WHICH MEANS THAT I'M YOUR SAVIOR!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, IDIOT TENGU!!
SEE YOU AGAIN!
USHIWAKA, YOU CANNOT TELL ANYONE THAT YOU'VE SEEN ME. YOU HAVE TO KEEP IT A SECRET!
PHEW—
AT LEAST I'M SAVED..

HE... HELLO...
AHHH! USHIWAKA! SO THERE YOU ARE!!
ARE YOU OKAY? WHY ARE YOU BLEEDING?
WHAT HAPPENED?
SOMEONE ATTACKED YOU?
YES, IT WAS SHUUKEN.
SHUUKEN? THE DISCIPLE WHO LIVED NEXT DOOR TO US?
KIYOMORI IS THE MASTER-MIND BEHIND THIS.
ALTHOUGH HE DIDN'T SAY THE NAME OUT LOUD, THERE'S DEFINITELY NO MISTAKE
ONLY HE WOULD USE THIS KIND OF DIRTY TRICK!
He's such a scumbag!
ARE YOU POSITIVE?!
THE... CHIEF COUN-CILOR OF STATE?!

WERE YOU FRIGHT-ENED?
I ADMIT HE WAS STRONG, BUT I STILL BEAT HIM.
HEY, DON'T WORRY!
AHHHH!!
YOU WERE SCARED ENOUGH TO PEE IN YOUR PANTS, SO WHO ARE YOU TRYING TO DECEIVE?
THIS WILL GET REALLY TROUBLESOME...
SHUUKEN IS THE ASSAS-SIN THAT WAS SENT BY THE CHIEF COUN-CILOR OF STATE...
IF THIS IS TRUE,


Roku-
hara

YOU FAILED?


BUT I'LL RESUME MY MISSION ONCE MY LEG INJURY IS HEALED!
MY APOLOGIES... THIS IS INEXCUSABLE... SOMEONE INTERFERED WITH THE MISSION, AND I DIDN'T WANT TO CAUSE A COMMOTION. I'VE DECIDED TO PUT MY MISSION ON HOLD TEMPORARILY FOR TONIGHT..

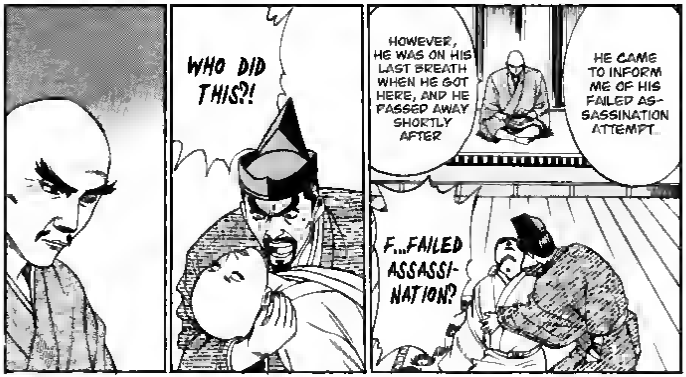
EH?
CAN YOU JUDGE A GOOD KATANA FROM A BAD ONE?
チャキッ
HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THIS KATANA?
カチャ
IT'S USELESS..
NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT, BOTH THE EDGING PATTERN AND THE BLADE CREST OF THIS KATANA IS FIRST CLASS WORKMANSHIP.
EH?
MY...MY APOLOGIES...
PLEASE FORGIVE MY IMMATURE JUDGMENT, I STILL NEED TO STUDY MORE.
IT'LL BE USEFUL IN BATTLE.

UGH!
YOU'RE THE USELESS ONE!

NOTE: DAINAGON-SAMA MEANS CHIEF COUNCILOR OF STATE.

SHI... SHINZA!!

HOW... HOW DID THIS HAPPEN?!!
SHINZA!!


WHO DID THIS?!
HOWEVER, HE WAS ON HIS LAST BREATH WHEN HE GOT HERE, AND HE PASSED AWAY SHORTLY AFTER
HE CAME TO INFORM ME OF HIS FAILED ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT.
F...FAILED ASSASSINATION?

THAT 7-YEARS-OLD KID?
U... USHI-WAKA... YOU MEAN...
USHIWAKA.
THE POINT IS, EVERYONE SAW YOUR SON
HIS IDENTITY WAS EXPOSED AND HE FAILED HIS MISSION.
EVENTUALLY, THERE'LL BE A DAY IN WHICH THE OPPONENTS WILL FIND OUT HEIKE IS SOME-HOW RELATED TO THIS INCIDENT,
AND THEN I'LL BE THEIR TARGET
MY.. MY APOLOGIES ..
DO YOU THINK THIS MATTER WILL BE SETTLED JUST BY YOU BEING APOLOGETIC?
EH?

CONFISCATE THEIR TERRI-TORIES!!
REMOVE THE SAMURAI STATUS OF THE MOGAMI FAMILY!
!!
WH... WHAT... YOU WANT TO ABDICATE THE SAMURAI STATUS...
OF OUR WHOLE CLAN...?!!
SO THIS RESPONSIBILITY DOES NOT LIE SOLELY ON ONE PERSON ALONE! THE WHOLE CLAN SHOULD BEAR THIS RE-SPONSIBILITY!
AND ON TOP OF THAT, THEIR SON DISCLOSED HIS TRUE IDENTITY TO EVERYONE.
THE MOGAMI FAMILY WASN'T CA-PABLE OF CARRYING OUT THE ASSIGN-MENT,

BUT...
I... I BEG YOU... PLEASE SPARE US...
THAT WON'T HAPPEN!!
If Ushiwaka's dead,
Who knows... I might change my mind...
YES!! I'LL FOLLOW YOUR ORDERS!!
!!!

THEN, THE POISONED FOOD THAT I ATE, IT WAS ALSO DONE BY SHUUKEN?
YES, HE WAS TRYING TO KILL ME.
BUT HE WAS HELPING YOU GIVE ME EMERGENCY TREATMENT.
WHICH PART OF ME HE DIDN'T LIKE?
WH...WHAT!
SHUUKEN DIDN'T LIKE YOU EITHER, THAT'S WHAT HE TOLD ME.
I THINK HE DIDN'T WANT TO CREATE A DISTURBANCE BY HAVING SOMEONE ELSE BESIDES USHIWAKA DIE.
I NEVER FELT ANY GOOD VIBES FROM HIM
SO THAT'S HOW IT IS... SINCE HE CAME HERE A MONTH AGO,

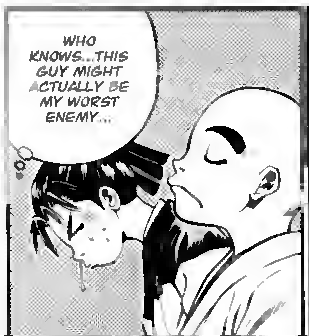
WHAT DID YOU SAY?! IS THIS HOW YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO TALK TO YOUR SENPAI?
Everything!!
HE PERSONALLY CAME TO ME TO REPORT ABOUT THE FOOD POISONING INCIDENT.
THAT WAS ALSO TO PREVENT PEOPLE FROM SUSPECTING HIM?
BUT HOW DID SHUUKEN BECOME THE ASSASSIN FOR THE CHIEF COUNCILOR OF STATE...?
FIND SOMETHING INTERESTING TO DO.
THEN, I WILL ALSO...
PLEASE WALK SLOWLY.
USHIWAKA, REST WELL AND HEAL YOUR INJURIES... KICHOUMARU, PLEASE TAKE CARE OF THIS PLACE.
I'LL GO AND CHECK!
WE'LL FIND OUT WHERE SHUUKEN CAME FROM BY TAKING A VISIT TO THE MAIN SHRINE.

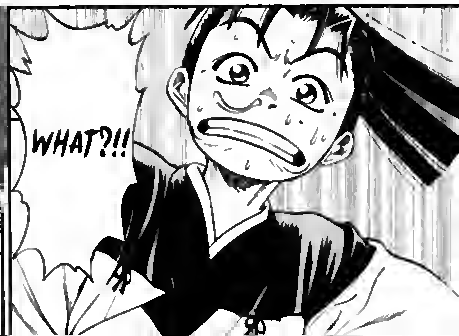
THAT'S SO STRANGE.
ARE YOU WORRYING ABOUT ME?

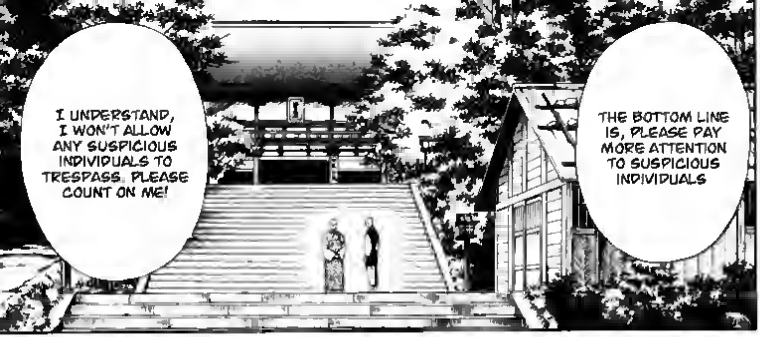
EH?
USHI-WAKA,
ARE YOU STILL IN PAIN?

THEN...
DON'T WORRY, SEEMS LIKE THEY'RE ALL SCRATCHES, SO NO BIG-GIES.

Hurry up and go chop firewood!

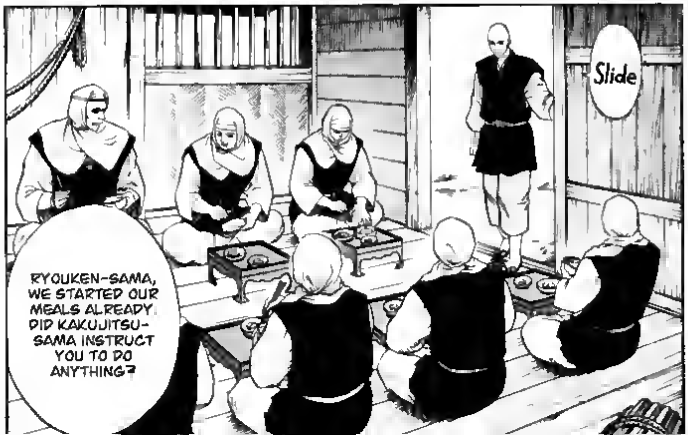

WHO KNOWS...THIS GUY MIGHT ACTUALLY BE MY WORST ENEMY...


WHAT?!!


I UNDERSTAND, I WON'T ALLOW ANY SUSPICIOUS INDIVIDUALS TO TRESPASS. PLEASE COUNT ON ME!
THE BOTTOM LINE IS, PLEASE PAY MORE ATTENTION TO SUSPICIOUS INDIVIDUALS

IT'S THE THIRD GROUP'S TURN THIS TIME.
NO TRAINING FOR THE AFTER-NOON?

THEN, THAT WOMAN IS...


Slide
RYOUKEN-SAMA, WE STARTED OUR MEALS ALREADY. DID KAKUJITSU-SAMA INSTRUCT YOU TO DO ANYTHING?

SEEMS LIKE SOMEONE ATTACKED USHIWAKA.
HE SAID AN INCIDENT OCCURRED LAST NIGHT ON THE MOUNTAIN, SO HE WANTED US TO PAY MORE ATTENTION TO OUR SURROUNDINGS.
INCIDENT?
EH? THAT BRAT?
RIGHT, BUT IT DIDN'T SEEM LIKE ANYTHING BAD HAPPENED.
AH, SO EVERYTHING IS OKAY, BUT THAT'S QUITE A NAUGHTY BRAT.
IT'S NOT A BAD THING TO LET HIM SUFFER A LITTLE!
HUH?
Yummy~!!
WAHAH-HAHAAA!

What kind of meat is this?
USHI-WAKA?!!
U...
ALLOWED TO EAT MEAT?
OH, ARE MONKS
I WAS GETTING BORED LAZING AROUND IN MY ROOM, SO I SNEAKED OUT TO PLAY.

IF TOUKOUBON-SAN FOUND OUT ABOUT THIS, I WONDER WHAT WOULD HAPPEN?
EVEN THOUGH KILLING ANY LIVING THING IS FORBIDDEN, AND EATING FISH IS NOT ALLOWED, YOU'RE EATING MEAT?!
HEY... SPARE ME, WON'T YOU?
SURE... BUT YOU MUST PERFORM SOMETHING INTERESTING
I'VE DECIDED TO ONLY TELL ON SHOUEN!
UM, RYOUKEN-CHAN IS NICE TO ME, SO I'LL KEEP IT A SECRET FOR YOU
WHAT!!
H... HOLD IT, YOU CANNOT TELL HIM THIS.
PERFORM?
PER..
?
HAHAHA- HAHAA...
WHAAHA- HAHA!

はは
パキ
パキ
ピピ
はは
は…
はは…
DAMN YOU! USHIWAKA!!
THIS FITS YOU SO WELL, SHOUEN!!
AHAHAHAHAAA...

WH...WHAT'S GOING ON? ANOTHER WAR IS COMING?
WHO AA!

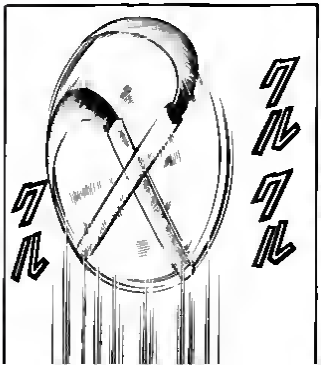
THIS BATTLE WILL DECIDE THE DESTINY OF OUR MOGAMI CLAN!
BLOOD WILL BE SPILT AND HEADS WILL BE CUT OFF,
BUT REVENGE WILL BE TAKEN!

HAAA AAAAAA!
USHIWAKA WILL BE SLAIN!!
ドドド

THIS BATTLE WILL DECIDE THE DESTINY OF THE MOGAMI FAMILY!

おおおおお

THE ENEMY OF MY SON, SHINZA USHIWAKAMARU,
MUST DIE!!


クルクル
クル

Chapter 9 - Revenge

USHIWAKA-DONO, HOW DID YOU LEARN THIS ART?
VERY SKILLFUL!!
WOW! SPLENDID!
RIGHT! THEY'RE SO AMAZING! ESPECIALLY THEIR LEADER, HE'S JUST SO INCREDIBLE...
AHH... FROM THE ACROBATIC TRAVELERS
I LEARNED IT FROM A COUPLE OF ACROBATIC TRAVELERS FROM THE NOKISHITA GROUP, WHO CAME TO MY HOUSE TO PERFORM...
AH...
WELL...
WHAT AN IDIOT!!
FEELING PROUD BECAUSE YOU LEARNED A TRICK OR TWO FROM THOSE MISERABLE LOWER-CLASS PERFORMERS...
HMPH
ヒュ〜

WHAT THE...
THEY HAD TO PUT THEIR LIVES ON THE LINE IN ORDER TO LEARN THOSE TECH-NIGUES!
DON'T LOOK DOWN ON THE PERFOR-MERS!
BAD NEWS!
SHUT UP, APE! GO BACK TO YOUR MOUNTAIN!
BUT YOU DON'T NEED TO THROW THAT SICKLE OVER HERE! DO YOU REALIZE HOW [illegible] THAT IS?!
HEY... STOP IT!

WHAT?!
A GROUP OF WARRIORS WITH AR-MAMENTS IS HEADING THIS WAY!
ドドドド
ガシャ ガシャ
Dg
HOLD... HOLD IT!
DON'T YOU KNOW WHERE YOU ARE?! IF YOU WANT TO WORSHIP, GET OFF YOUR HORSE QUICKLY AND PUT DOWN YOUR WEA-NS!!
BE QUIET! I DIDN'T COME HERE TO WORSHIP!
WE'RE ON A MISSION!

HAND USHIWA-KAMARU OVER!!
I'M MOGAMI MASAFUSA, THE LEADER OF THE MOGAMI CLAN!
I'M HERE PURSUING A PERSON INSIDE THIS TEMPLE!
USHIWAKA?!
!!?
I DON'T EVEN KNOW THESE PEOPLE, WHY DID THEY COME TO CAUSE TROUBLES?
THEY... ARE AFTER ME?
WHY? I JUST WANT TO KNOW WHY THEY HATE ME SO MUCH.
NO... WAIT... YOU CAN'T GO OUT!

LEAVE THIS MATTER TO RYOUKEN-SAMA. JUST BEHAVE YOURSELF AND STAY HERE.
DUMBASS! DON'T YOU FEEL THEIR POWERFUL MURDEROUS AURA FROM THEIR EXPRESSIONS?!
IT SHOWS THEIR DETERMINATION TO KILL YOU, EVEN IF THEY HAVE TO SACRIFICE THEIR LIVES!
.....
THIS PLACE IS THE SACRED KURAMA TEMPLE.
I WILL NEVER LET SUCH BLOODTHIRSTY PEOPLE ENTER HERE!
SHUT UP! I DON'T CARE ABOUT YOUR SACRED LAND!

WHAT?!
MY YOUNGER BROTHER SHINZA CAME TO THIS TEMPLE TO UNDERGO TRAINING USING THE NAME SHUUKEN, BUT HE WAS SERIOUSLY INJURED AND DIED SOON AFTER HE WAS SENT BACK HOME.
HE WAS KILLED BY A GUY NAMED USHIWAKA!
HUH? SHUUKEN IS DEAD?

.....
THE ENEMY OF MY OLDER BROTHER!
ARE YOU GOING TO HAND USHIWAKAMARU OVER?!

I REFUSE!!!

FOR YOU TO COME HERE AND ACCUSE USHIWAKA SO BLUNTLY.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT KIND OF PROOF YOU HAVE...
HE IS OUR COMRADE!! WE WILL NOT HAND HIM OVER TO YOU!!
HOWEVER, SINCE USHIWAKA HAS PASSED THROUGH THIS DOOR AND HAS BECOME A DISCIPLE OF THIS TEMPLE,
DON'T SLAUGHTER THE INNOCENTS!!
OUR TARGET IS USHIWAKA ONLY!
SHO-UEN...
.....
CHARGE!
SINCE COMMUNICATION SEEMS USELESS WITH YOU, WE CAN ONLY RESOLVE THIS BY FORCE!

ブオオー
ブオオー
ブオオー
スッ
FA... FATHER... LOOK AROUND...
WHAT... WHAT'S GOING ON?!
Namum-yohoren gekyo
Namum-yohoren gekyo
Namum-yohoren gekyo

Myohore ngekyo!!
Myohore ngekyo!!
THIS... THIS IS...
I ADVISE YOU TO WITHDRAW QUICKLY! OTHERWISE, YOU WILL MEET YOUR DEMISE!
TO THE TRANSGRESSORS WHO TAKE COMPASSION IN VAIN AND COME HERE TO CONTAMINATE THIS SACRED MOUNTAIN!
Namumyoho rengekyo...
Namumyoho rengekyo...
Namumyoho rengekyo...
Namumyoho rengekyo...

T/N. Namumyohorengekyo is a Buddhism expression meaning, "Glory to the Lotus Sutra"
T/N Myohorengekyo stands for "Lotus Sutra"

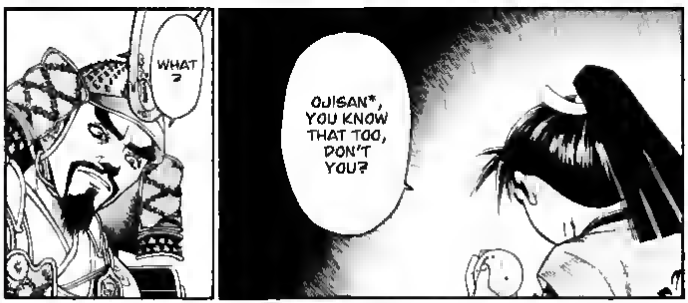
EVEN IF OUR HEADS ARE CUT OFF, WE'LL USE OUR TEETH TO BITE USHIWAKA'S HEAD OFF!!
DO NOT BACK DOWN! THEY'RE NOTHING BUT A MOTLEY CROWD! FOR THIS BATTLE, EVEN IF OUR LEGS ARE BROKEN, WE'LL FIGHT WITH OUR ARMS...
DAMN!
HOLD IT.
MOVE FORWARD!!
AH! WHERE DID HE GO?
!
EH?

STEP
I am Ushi-waka.

ザワ
!!
IT , IT CAN'T BE THIS LITTLE KID
FA-THER ?
SHINZA, WHO WAS TRAINED IN MARTIAL ARTS FOR SO MANY YEARS, WAS DEFEA-TED BY THIS LITTLE KID?
DUMB... DUMBASS... WHO TOLD YOU TO COME OUT?!
ドン
IT'S OKAY, JUST GET OUT OF THE WAY
WHAT?

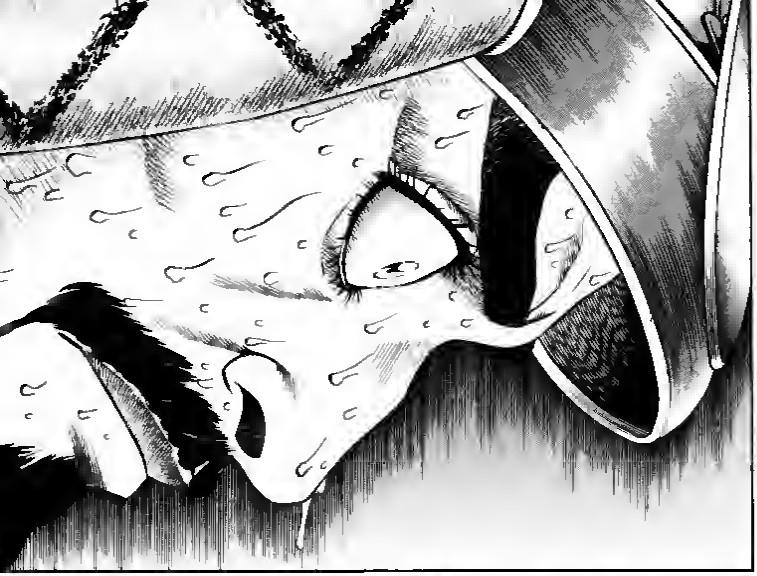
BE PREPARED! ENEMY OF SHINZA!
AHHH!!

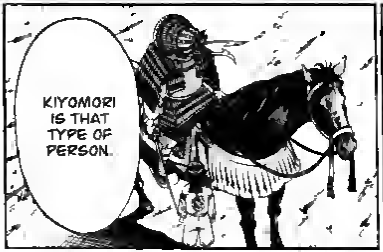
THIS IS SHUUKEN'S MEMENTO.
EH?
TRUTH IS, HE DIDN'T WANT TO KILL ME...
HE TOLD ME THIS: "IN ORDER TO PROTECT MY PUNY CLAN, I CAN ONLY STAIN MY HAND WITH BLOOD..."
THIS IS THE POISONED DUMPLING HE TRIED EVERYTHING HE COULD TO TAKE MY LIFE AWAY.
UGH...
THAT SOUNDS SO SAD...



T/N Ojisan= Uncle or middle-aged man

THE REAL CULPRIT IS KIYOMORI.
WHAT?!




KIYOMORI IS THAT TYPE OF PERSON.

KIYOMORI KILLED HIM...
BECAUSE OF HIS FAILED ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT.

YOU'RE ALL PUPPETS IN KIYOMORI'S HANDS.

EVEN IF YOU KILL ME HERE TODAY, ONE DAY IN THE FUTURE YOU'LL RECEIVE A SIMILAR ASSIGNMENT...
AND THEN, WHO KNOWS, YOUR FAMILY MAY LOSE ANOTHER MEMBER...

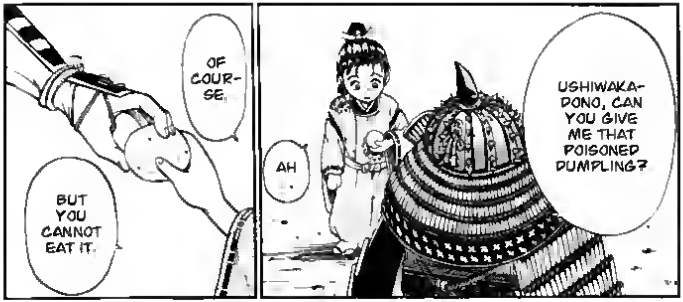
IS IT OKAY FOR THIS TO CONTINUE?
I REALLY CAN'T HAVE ANY MORE MEANINGLESS SACRIFICES

MASAFUSA-DONO, WHAT IS GOING ON EXACTLY?
IS THAT BOY SPEAKING THE TRUTH?
IF THAT'S THE TRUTH, THEN OUR MISSION IS TO TAKE THE LIFE OF AN INNO-CENT CHILD...
AND THAT IS A DISGRACE TO THE SAMURAI'S CODE OF HONOR...
BUT WE CAN'T DEFY THE ORDER FROM THE CHIEF COUNCILOR OF STATE, EITHER...
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
THAT IS QUITE SIMPLE.
HMM?
Just run away.
RUN AWAY?
SO THAT'S HOW IT IS!

MOGAMI-DONO... LOOKING AT THE CURRENT SITUATION,
YOUR CLAN WILL BE ANNIHILATED BY HEIKE IF YOU RETURN WITH EMPTY HANDS.
EVEN IF YOU MAKE A GREAT EFFORT TO FIGHT AGAINST ALL OF US, THE ODDS WON'T BE IN YOUR FAVOR.
THERE'S STILL ONE PATH REMAINING, HOWEVER.
RUN TO TOGOKU*.
T/N. Togoku means "Eastern provinces."
TOGOKU...
ALTHOUGH YOU'VE LOST YOUR TERRITORIES TODAY,
AS LONG AS YOU STAY ALIVE, YOU'LL DEFINITELY HAVE A CHANCE TO START ALL OVER AGAIN.

RATHER THAN BEING AN OBEDIENT DOG THAT HAS NO DIGNITY,
WOULDN'T IT BE BETTER TO BE A WOLF FILLED WITH PRIDE IN THE WILD?
MASA-FUSA-DONO, WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON THIS?
YOU'RE THE HEAD OF THE CLAN WE'LL FOLLOW YOUR DECISION.
コク

BUT ONE DAY, WE WILL RETURN TO THE IMPERIAL CAPITAL!
THEN, THE MOGAMI FAMILY WILL TEMPORARILY RESIDE IN TOGOKU!!
AYE!
UNTIL THEN EVERYONE HAS TO PERSEVERE AND PREPARE FOR THAT TIME!
DOOO DOOO DOOO DOOO


OF COURSE.
BUT YOU CANNOT EAT IT.
AH.
USHIWAKA-DONO, CAN YOU GIVE ME THAT POISONED DUMPLING?

USHIWAKA-DONO, THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR AWAKENING ME. MY HEAD HAS CLEARED NOW.
PLEASE TAKE CARE.

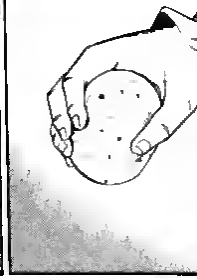
ドカ ドカ ドカ
ドカ ドカ ドカ

...
WHY IS HE HEADING IN A DIFFERENT DIRECTION FROM THE OTHERS?
STRANGE...
HE MUST BE ON HIS WAY TO DO SOMETHING THAT ONLY A FATHER SHOULD DO...
SOME-THING HE SHOULD DO?

WHOAA!
MOGAMI-DONO!!
P... PLEASE HOLD IT RIGHT THERE, MOGAMI-DONO!
ROKUHARA
WHAT'S HAPPENING?! WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF A CONFERENCE!!
NOT A PROBLEM
EH?

IT'S MOGAMI..
WHERE'S USHIWAKA'S HEAD?
Flop
Flop
Flop

SHINZA..



ガシ

I'M SORRY!
YOU'VE SUFFERED SO MUCH BECAUSE OF ME.
もり もり もり

HMM?

I HAVE TO ASK YOU FOR FORGIVENESS EVEN IF I LOSE MY LIFE!
WHAT?
HAVE YOU LOST YOUR MIND? MOGAMI-DONO?!
ENEMY OF MY SON, SHINZA!!
PREPARE YOURSELF, KIYOMORI!

Flop
Flop
Flop

FROM NOW ON...
SHINZA...
I'LL ACCOMPANY YOU.

Flap
Flap
Flap
SUCH A USELESS PIECE OF JUNK...
I BEG YOUR FORGIVENESS, BUT AREN'T YOU A LITTLE TOO WORRIED ABOUT USHIWAKA?
EVEN IF HE'S THE SON OF YOSHITOMO, HE'S STILL A LITTLE KID...
THIS... IS THIS INCIDENT BECAUSE OF THAT USHIWAKA AGAIN?
DAINAGON-SAMA, WHAT'S GOING ON, EXACTLY...
IN...INJURY... HURRY UP AND GET THE MEDICINES HERE!!

HUH?
YOU STILL DON'T GET IT?
...
YOU STILL DON'T UNDER-STAND?
RETURNED AND POINTED HIS BLADE AGAINST ME
THE ASSASSIN THAT I DEPLOYED ...
THE EXISTENCE OF THIS CHILD..
WILL BECOME A MAJOR THREAT TO HEIKE IN THE FUTURE!!

Slap
USHIWAKA...
TO PROVOKE DAINAGON-SAMA TO THAT EXTENT... USHIWAKA...

BUT USHIWAKA, WHAT DID YOU DO TO HEIKE FOR HIM TO GO AFTER YOUR LIFE SO RELENTLESSLY?
AH, THAT...
WAS IT REALLY THAT BAD TO HAVE TO DIE TO ATONE FOR YOUR CRIME? YOU REALLY MUST HAVE SAID SOMETHING YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE...
DIDN'T I TELL YOU THAT I BAD-MOUTHED HEIKE? SO THE BALD-HEADED GUY ARRESTED ME!
UM, IT'S A LONG STORY...
HURRY UP AND OPEN IT!
HEY, HEY... HOLD ON...
AH! COULD IT BE...
GOZEN-SAMA ASKED SOMEONE TO SEND IT OVER?
AHH H!
HEY, USHIWAKA, SOMEONE SENT SOMETHING FOR YOU...
EH? FOR ME? FROM WHOM?
I DON'T KNOW WHO THE SENDER IS, BUT IT SEEMS THAT HE ASKED ONE OF THE VILLAGERS AT THE BOTTOM OF THE MOUNTAIN TO GIVE IT TO YOU.

ブロン
MO...
MOGAMI-OJISAN...
.....
AHHH HH!
!!
THIS... THIS IS...

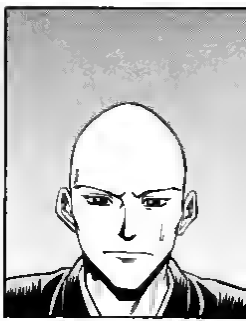
ROKU-HARA? SO THE ONE WHO DID THIS...
IS KIYOMORI AGAIN?
.....
SO HE WENT TO ROKUHARA AND CHOSE TO DIE AN HONORABLE DEATH...
ALTHOUGH MOGAMI-DONO KNEW HE COULDN'T ESCAPE HIS FATE,
HE WENT WITHOUT FEAR TO TAKE BACK THE DIGNITY OF A FATHER...
コクッ
.....
BUT WHO WOULD HAVE THOUGHT THAT HIS DIGNITY WOULD GET TRAMPLED LIKE THIS BY KIYOMORI..

MONK'S ENSHRINEMENT HALL
Myohorengekyo
WORLD-HONORED ONE,
COMPLETE WITH WONDROUS MARKS,
T/N: Avalokitesvara is the bodhisattva of mercy and salvation.
WHY IS THIS DISCIPLE OF BUDDHA
CALLED AVALOKITESVARA*?
THE HONORED ONE OF PERFECT, WONDROUS MARKS,
WITH VERSES ANSWERED WITH INEXHAUSTIBLE INTENTION,

ARE YOU ALRIGHT? USHIWAKA-DONO?
.....
ズ…
TO WITNESS YOUR LOVED ONES PASS AWAY IT'S SUCH A SORROWFUL AND PAINFUL THING...
ONLY CAUSE GRIEF TO THE FRIENDS STILL LIVING ON EARTH, MAKING THEM SHED TEARS...
WHEN ONE DIES, HE CAN NO LONGER LAUGH MERRILY.
.....
!
BECAUSE OF ME...
ポツ…
TWO PEOPLE HAVE DIED...

Those two...
We're definitely not bad people...

USHIWAKA-DONO.



USHIWAKA IS NOT AN AVERAGE CHILD.
HE IS KIND AND THOUGHTFUL AND FULL OF COMPASSION FOR OTHERS...
TO FEEL REMORSE AND SHED TEARS...
FOR THE DEATH OF THE TWO PEOPLE THAT WERE AFTER HIS LIFE...
ALTHOUGH WE'LL HELP YOU, YOU STILL HAVE TO BE CAREFUL ON YOUR OWN.
IF YOU DON'T, YOU'LL BE KILLED.
THIS IS THEIR DECLARATION OF WAR!
THERE'S NO TIME TO CRY! USHIWAKA, THE ENEMY SENT MOGAMI-DONO'S HEAD TO YOU... THEY MEAN TO KILL YOU THE SAME WAY!

GLARE

!!
THERE'S NO WAY I'LL BE KILLED!
I WON'T LOSE TO THAT SCUMBAG KIYOMORI!!
CHAPTER 9 - END

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Chapter 10: Mousetrap

HURRY UP! THE OTHERS HAVE GATHERED ALREADY.
HEY, SHOUEN! WHERE ARE YOU GUYS GOING?
YOU HAVE TO TAKE THE UTMOST CARE IN GUARDING KURAMA TEMPLE.
DON'T THINK OF LEAVING ME BEHIND AND GO SOMEWHERE ELSE TO PLAY!

"EVER SINCE USHIWAKA PASSED THROUGH THIS DOOR, HE BECAME OUR COMRADE!!"
YOU'RE HERE AGAIN?
I DON'T HAVE TIME TO PLAY WITH YOU TODAY, SO GO BACK AND SWEEP THE FLOOR.
WHY? LET ME JOIN!
USHIWAKA-DONO, WE'RE NOT GOING OUT TO PLAY.
DIDN'T YOU SAY THAT? DON'T LEAVE ME BEHIND!
THEN, WHERE ARE YOU GUYS GOING? RYOUKEN-CHAN?
STRON-GER?
USHIWAKA-DONO, DO YOU WANT TO GET STRONGER?

I DON'T WANT TO BE AN EASY TARGET FOR KIYOMORI! I WILL DIE REGRETTING IT FOREVER!
OF COURSE!
ARE WE GOING TO THE RIVER TO SWIM OR ARE WE GOING TO PLAY TAG?
WHERE ARE WE GOING?
REALLY?
I SEE. THEN, FOLLOW ME

IN KURAMA MOUNTAIN
HAA!!
HAA!!
HAA!!
YOUR WAIST IS TOO HIGH! LOWER IT!
HAA!!
HAA!!
THIS .. THIS IS...
THIS IS MARTIAL ARTS TRAINING! WE CAN'T STAY IDLE FOR LONG ..
WE MUST ALWAYS STAY FIT IN ORDER TO BE ABLE TO PROTECT KURAMA TEMPLE WHENEVER IS NECESSARY.

SHOUEN IS VERY STRICT.
DON'T WORRY!
I WANT TO PARTICIPATE TOO!
SO THAT'S HOW IT IS...WILL YOU GET STRONGER IF YOU KEEP ON PRACTICING LIKE THAT?
IT SEEMS REALLY INTERE-STING.
WHAT KIND OF POSTURE IS THAT?!!
LIKE... LIKE THIS?

SO... LIKE THIS?
TOO SLOW!
DO IT FASTER, WITH CONCISE MOVEMENT!
CONCENTRATE ON THE TIP OF THE STICK!
TREAT THE WEAPON AS IF IT WERE A PART OF YOUR BODY!
YOU CAN'T PRACTICE WITH THE STYLE THAT YOU'RE USED TO!
FOCUS MORE ON THIS NEW STYLE AND FOLLOW MY DIRECTIONS CAREFULLY!
USE MORE FORCE!
SLOW! TOO SLOW!
YOU CAN'T EVEN HIT A KITTEN LIKE THIS!!

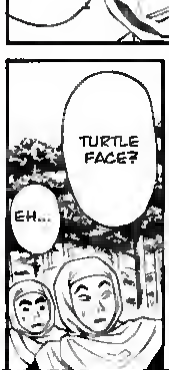
ARE YOU THAT POWERFUL? ENOUGH TO ORDER OTHER PEOPLE AROUND? SHOUEN!
ALL YOU DO IS SCREAM! WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?!
I'VE HAD ENOUGH!

I UNDER-STAND.
CHILDREN'S WORDS CARRY NO HARM; DON'T TAKE IT SERIOUSLY.

YOU'RE NOT STRONG AT ALL! YOU'RE ONLY GOOD AT PRETE-NDING!
IF YOU HAVE ANY GUTS, YOU'LL FIGHT ME!

THIS IS WHY I CAN'T STAND KIDS...IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT, GO AWAY. YOU'RE REALLY ANNOYING.
SIGH...

SO PLEASE GET OUT OF THE WAY.
OKAY, YOU'RE STRONGER.


TURTLE FACE?
EH...

.....

ビシッ
YOU TURTLE FACE! QUIT BOSSING PEOPLE AROUND!

OKAY THEN! COME FIGHT ME IF YOU CAN!
USHIWAKA!!

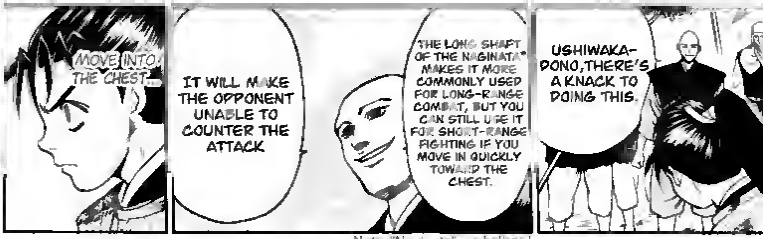
YOU'RE PISSING ME OFF! I'LL DEFINITELY MAKE YOU KNEEL BEFORE ME!
OKAY, THEN... LET'S GO!
.....

DEAR ME... WE HAVE 2 CHILDREN HERE...

HAHA... THERE'S NO WAY YOU'LL BEAT ME WITHOUT TYING MY ARMS AND LEGS DOWN FIRST.
HA HA HA HA!

AHH

I'LL KNEEL DOWN TO YOU!!
IF YOUR STICK CAN TOUCH ME,


MOVE INTO THE CHEST.
IT WILL MAKE THE OPPONENT UNABLE TO COUNTER THE ATTACK
THE LONG SHAFT OF THE NAGINATA* MAKES IT MORE COMMONLY USED FOR LONG-RANGE COMBAT, BUT YOU CAN STILL USE IT FOR SHORT-RANGE FIGHTING IF YOU MOVE IN QUICKLY TOWARD THE CHEST.
USHIWAKA-DONO, THERE'S A KNACK TO DOING THIS.

Note: "Naginata" is a halberd.

WHAT?!
ビュン
ビュン
ブオッ
ブオッ
キュン
キュン
キュン
THE ONLY OTHER PERSON WHO POSSESSES THAT LEVEL OF SKILL IS RYOUKEN-SAMA!
THAT'S OUR SHOUEN!
THE NAGI-NATA IS SO HEAVY, BUT HE CAN WAVE IT AROUND WITH SUCH SPEED.
I CAN'T SEE THE NAGINATA!

ヒュン
ヒュン
ヒュン
ヒュン
Rip!
W... WHAT?!
IT'S BETTER TO NOT ACT IMPE THOUSLY.
IF YOU MOVE CARELESSLY, YOU'LL BE LIKE THAT LEAF -YOU'LL GET TORN IN HALF.
THAT...THAT LEAF BACK THEN...WAS CUT BY SHOUEN?
I COULDN'T SEE A THING!

I'LL JUST RUSH IN THERE AND SHOW YOU WHAT I CAN DO!
DAMN! SEEMS LIKE I'LL HAVE TO TAKE MY CHANCE!
HAHAHAHA... I THINK IT'S BETTER FOR YOU TO SURRENDER NOW!
HMPH.
GAA AHH HHH HH ...

THUMP
DAMN!
ドシャッ
スチャッ
!!

AND THIS IS HOW IT IS...
YOU LOSE!
DAMN!
YOU'RE NOTHING BUT A SPECK OF DUST!
HOW CAN YOU ACT ARROGANT WHEN YOU'RE JUST A USELESS, INSIGNIFICANT SPECK OF DUST?! JUST REMEMBER THAT!
DON'T THINK YOU'RE GOOD AT EVERYTHING.
IT'S A GOOD THING FOR A BOY TO BE COMPETITIVE, BUT YOU MUST ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT THERE WILL ALWAYS BE SOMEONE WHO'S BETTER THAN YOU.

SHOUEN, DON'T YOU THINK YOU 'VE GONE OVER-BOARD?
ALIGN!!
GAME OVER! CONTINUE WITH THE TRAINING!

I SEE...SO YOU TREAT HIM STRICTLY OUT OF LOVE...
I THINK THE SOONER HE UNDERSTANDS, THE BETTER IT WILL BE.
THAT BAD HABIT MIGHT COST HIM HIS LIFE ONE DAY.
NO, RYOUKEN-SAMA.
USHIWAKA IS TOO RECKLESS.

Note: Goma means sesame. Ushiwaka just invented a new name for him :P

WHATEVER, AREN'T THEY ALL THE SAME?!
NOT GOMA! IT'S GOHO-MAO-SON!!
THE... THE SAME? WHAT A RUDE BRAT!!
I WANT TO DEFEAT SHOUEN! HURRY UP AND TEACH ME SOME MARTIAL ARTS TECHNIQUES! I WANT TO WIN!
SO YOU KNOW!
YOU JUST WANT TO DEFEAT THE BUDDHIST PRIEST, CORRECT?
YOU... YOU SAW IT.
JUST TEACH ME HOW TO DEFEAT AN OPPONENT THAT USES A NAGINATA!

EH?
IT'S IMPOS-SIBLE!
YOU... ASSHOLE! SO YOU LOOK DOWN ON ME TOO!
HOW-EVER,
YOU'RE ONLY A SPECK OF DUST! HOW CAN A SPECK OF DUST DEFEAT A HUMAN BEING?
ビュウウウウ
COME TO THE SOJO VALLEY INSIDE THE MOUNTAIN!!
W...WHAT DO YOU MEAN? HURRY UP AND TEACH ME. I'LL STUDY AND BEHAVE MYSELF.
I CAN HELP YOU SO YOU DON'T LOSE SO BADLY.
SOJO VALLEY?

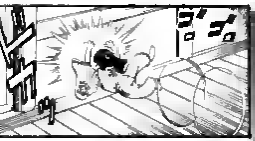
WHERE IS THIS SOJO VALLEY?
WHY IS IT DEEP INSIDE THE MOUNTAIN...
MAKES ME SO TIRED FROM RUN-NING...
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
EH?
THERE'S A SHRINE DEEP IN THE MOUNTAIN...?
WHAT IS THIS PLACE EXACTLY?

Note: Fudo or Fudo-myoo...also known as Acala, is a wrathful deity that is regarded with respect by Buddhists in Japan.

OPEN THE DOOR!!
H...HEY! WHAT WAS THAT? WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
ドドド

A MOUSE?

YOU WILL MORE OR LESS BE ABLE TO COMPETE WITH THAT NAGINATA-WAVING BUDDHIST PRIEST.
WHEN YOU SUCCEED IN CATCHING THE MOUSE,



YOU RASCAL...

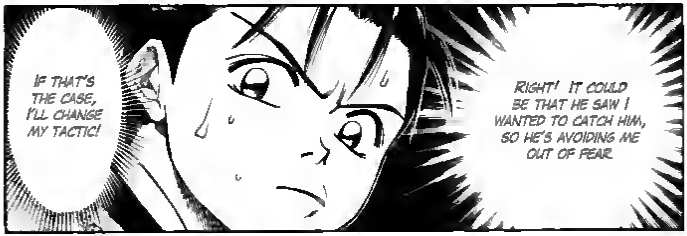
GRR RR!!

REALLY? SO ALL I HAVE TO DO IS CATCH THAT MOUSE?

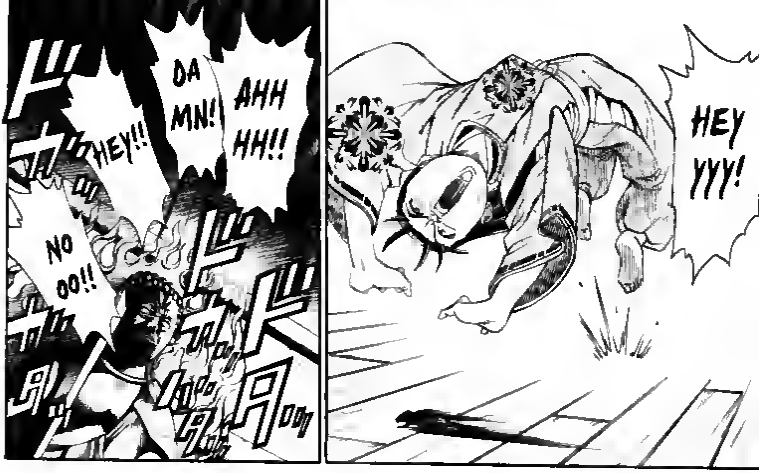
SUCH A PIECE OF CAKE.
IT'S SO SIMPLE.

CALL ME WHEN YOU'RE DONE
TAKE YOUR TIME HAVING FUN WITH THAT MOUSE
DON'T GO TOO FAR, GOMA-TENGU. I'LL CALL YOU SOON!
OKAY! MOUSE-KUN...
RIGHT, I'LL JUST CALL YOU "CHOUEN"!
SINCE ALL OF YOU ARE MOUSE-LIKE ANYWAY!
I'M GOING TO CATCH YOU NOW, SO BEHAVE YOURSELF AND DON'T MOVE.
HEY!!
YOU RASCAL!!
STOP!!

THIS GUY IS RUNNING SO FAST ..
WHAT SHOULD I DO...?
SCRA TCH
SCRA TCH
SCRA TCH
WASP
WASP
WASP


IF THAT'S THE CASE, I'LL CHANGE MY TACTIC!
RIGHT! IT COULD BE THAT HE SAW I WANTED TO CATCH HIM, SO HE'S AVOIDING ME OUT OF FEAR.

LET'S CALL THIS THE "I'M NOT INTERESTED IN CATCHING YOU" OPERATION!
HMM... A SOLID PIECE OF TIMBER.
SUCH A MASTER PIECE!

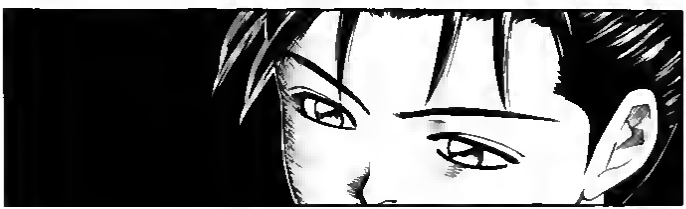

HEY!!
DA MN!
AHH HH!!
NO OO!!
HEY YYY!

"PANT"
"PANT"
"PANT"
"PANT"

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO IS LOOK CAREFULLY AT THE SPEED AND MOVEMENT OF THE MOUSE.
EVEN IF YOU USE CAMOUFLAGE, IT WON'T WORK AGAINST IT.

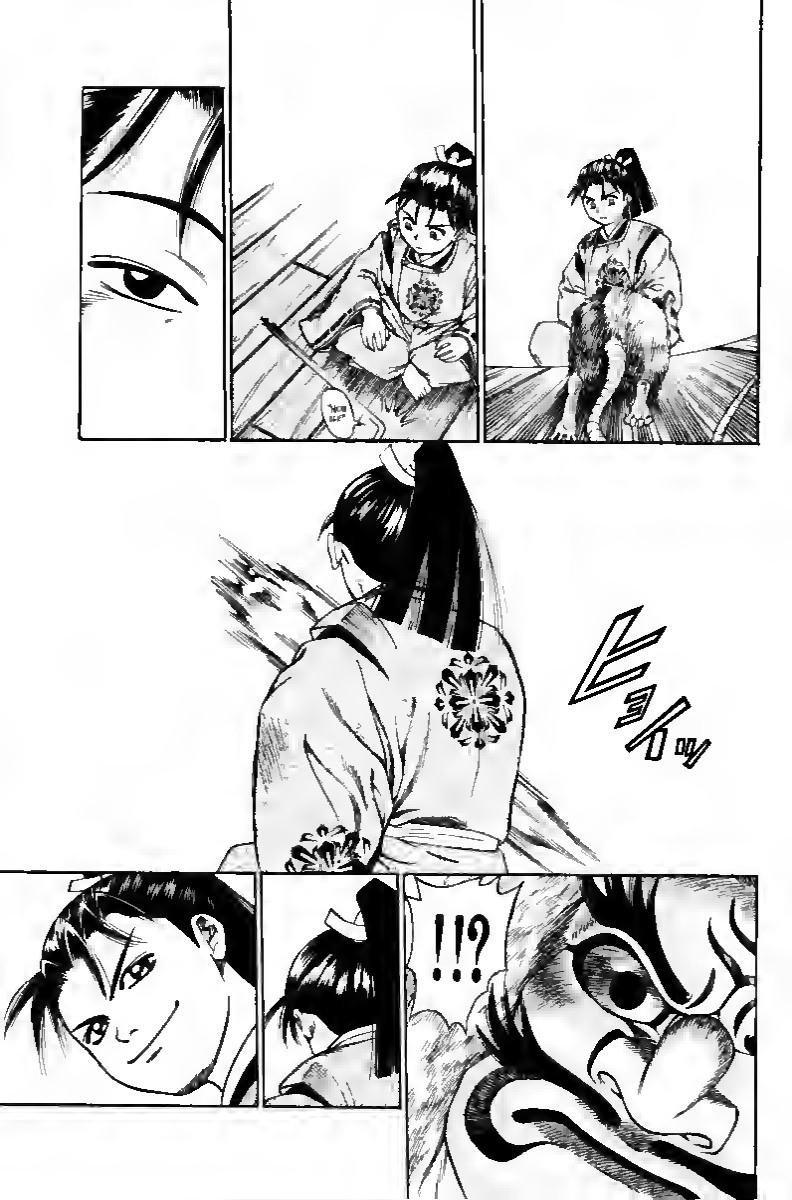
LOOK
CAREFULLY...

Note: One archaic period of time is approximately equivalent to 2 hours of time, corresponding to one of the signs of Chinese Zodiac.



GOMA-TENGU!
SEEMS LIKE IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR HIM TO UNDERSTAND IN JUST ONE DAY. I'LL LET HIM GO BACK FIRST.
COME IN.
HMM?

DON'T RUSH.
IT'LL BE BAD IF I GET EXPOSED WHEN THE PRIESTS ARE OUT LOOKING FOR YOU.
JUST GO BACK FOR THE DAY.
WHAT?
LOOK CAREFULLY


ヒョイ
!!?

AFTER OBSERVING THE MOUSE'S MOVEMENTS CAREFULLY, IT GOT SO MUCH SIMPLER!
"SCREECH"
"SCREECH"
WHAT...?! THIS CHILD!!

TO THE POINT THAT IT GOES BEYOND WHAT AVERAGE PEOPLE CAN COMPREHEND!
USHIWAKA DEFINITELY HAS AMAZING POTENTIAL...
ONE MUST POSSESS EYES QUICK ENOUGH TO KEEP UP WITH THE SPEED OF THE MOUSE.
IN ORDER TO CATCH A MOUSE THAT HAS IRREGULAR PATTERNS OF MOVEMENT,
AND HE DIDN'T EVEN TRY IT OUT.
I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT THIS KID ALREADY MASTERED IT IN JUST 4 HOURS..
TO RUBBISH.
HMM, YOU'RE PROBABLY MOVED FROM A SPECK OF DUST
HEY, SO I'LL BECOME STRONGER JUST BY DOING THAT?
SO IT'S RUBBISH NOW...

GOOD! WE'LL STOP HERE TODAY!
WAIT!
THANK YOU FOR YOUR HARD WORK.
BRAT... YOU STILL DON'T GET IT...
LET'S FIGHT ONE MORE TIME!
YOU BIG TURTLE OVER THERE!! ALTHOUGH I WENT EASY ON YOU THIS MORNING, I CAN'T FORGIVE YOU, TURTLE-FACE!
H... HEY...
IF THAT'S THE CASE, I'LL LET YOU PERSONALLY EXPERIENCE YOUR HOPELESSNESS!

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO WIN AGAINST SHOUEN...
HEY, USHIWAKA, FORGET IT
USHIWAKA!! I WON'T GO EASY ON YOU THIS TIME! I'LL REALLY DEMOLISH YOU!
ALTHOUGH THIS LANCE DOESN'T HAVE A POINTED METAL HEAD, YOU SHOULD BE PREPARED TO HAVE ONE OR TWO OF YOUR BONES BROKEN!!
HAND ME THE LANCE.
EH?
HMM... USING A LANCE THAT HAS NO METAL HEAD INSTEAD OF A NAGINATA... IT COULDN'T BE...
LET'S SETTLE THIS!
SHOUEN IS REALLY UPSET!
AND USHIWAKA IS QUITE INSENSIBLE

THE LANCE IS LIGHTER THAN THE NAGINATA, SO HE SWINGS IT MUCH FASTER...
キュンキュン
キュン
HEYYY!!
SO... SO HE HAS MADE HIS FIRST STRIKE?
HE WAS GOING FAST, I COULDN'T SEE ANYTHING.
AND THERE'S A BIG HOLE ON THE GROUND!!
I CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO USHIWAKA IF HE GETS HIT BY SUCH A FEARSOME FORCE!

BUT WHY WOULD USHIWAKA WANT TO REPLAY THE SHOWDOWN FROM THIS MORNING? HE MUST HAVE NOTICED THE DIFFERENCE IN THEIR STRENGTH...
USHIWAKA'S EYES...
WHAT?
EH?
キュン キュン
HIS PUPILS ARE FLUCTUATING SO QUICKLY! WHY IS SUCH A THING...?

GOMA-TENGU, THE THINGS YOU'VE TAUGHT ME ARE QUITE USEFUL.
I CAN CLEARLY SEE THE MOVING LINES OF THE STICK!
I... I SEE IT!

THE SECRET IS TO KEEP MY NECK STILL, I ONLY USE MY EYES TO TRACK THE MOVEMENT OF THE MOUSE
HOWEVER, WHEN I'M CALM AND USING MY EYES TO FOLLOW THAT SHADOW, I BEGIN TO SEE IT GRADUALLY
IT WAS THE SAME THING WITH THE MOUSE. FIRST, I SEE A BLACK SHADOW THAT IS MOVING VERY QUICKLY
I HAVE TO KEEP MY COOL AND IF I USE MY EYES TO OBSERVE CAREFULLY, I'LL BE ABLE TO SEE THE DIRECTION OF SHOUEN'S ATTACK
EVENTUALLY, I EVEN GET TO SEE THE EYES OF THE MOUSE AFTER THAT, IT'S A PIECE OF CAKE
AN OPENING!!

ON THE RIGHT!!
?
WHAT?!!

パシッ
ヒュッ
UGH!
ガシ
!!
!!
!!

THE RESULT...
HAS BEEN DECIDED!!

WHY DID LISHIWAKA CHOOSE THE RIGHT SIDE...?
BUT, IF SHOUEN SWING HIS LANCE FROM THE LEFT, LISHIWAKA WOULD HAVE BEEN WIDE OPEN...
HE STUCK THE LANCE INTO THE GROUND TO BLOCK SHOUEN'S ATTACK, AND IN THAT INSTANT, SWIFTLY ENTERED THE OPPONENT'S CHEST...
HE WAS ABLE TO SEE THE MOVEMENT OF SHOUEN'S LANCE?
IT...IT CAN'T BE...
EH? NO...DIRT SOUNDS MUCH BETTER THAN DUST...
HMM...I'LL JUST CALL YOU A PIECE OF THREAD BUT IT IS OF HIGHER QUALITY THAN A SPECK OF DUST...
WHAT SHOULD I CALL YOU?
SHOUEN LOST TO A SPECK OF DUST! SO I GUESS YOU'RE NOW A SPECK OF DIRT!
BWAHA HAHA!
UGH...
HOW COULD THIS HAPPEN.

HEY, HEY! STOP BABBLING OVER THERE.
NO,NO, WITH ME...
NOT WITH HIM, WITH ME!
HAVE A MATCH WITH ME, WHAT DO YOU THINK?
YOU DID A MARVELOUS JOB! USHIWAKA!
EH?
WHICH MEANS, I'VE DEFEATED ALL OF YOU!
DON'T BE STUPID. I BEAT SHOUEN, THE ONE WHO HAS BEEN TEACHING YOU ALL MARTIAL ARTS.
YOUR LUCK WON'T STAY WITH YOU IF YOU KEEP HAVING MATCHES WITH US.
THAT'S RIGHT ... SINCE YOU WON BY LUCK ANYWAY...
W...WHAT?!!
IS ONLY RYOUKEN-CHAN?
THE ONLY ONE WHO IS AT MY LEVEL NOW...

WHAT DO YOU THINK? RYOUKEN-CHAN?
WANT TO HAVE A MATCH WITH ME?
CHAPTER 10 - END

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SHANA OH YOSHITSUNE

by SAWADA Hirofumi /沢田 ひろふみ

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Chapter 11 - Training Gathering

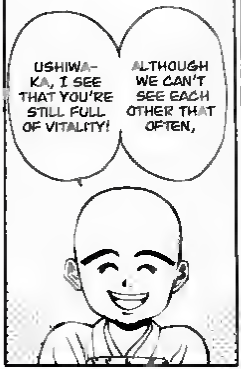
AHHHHH~ THIS FEELS SO GOOD! WITH THIS, SHOUEN AND THE OTHERS WILL KNOW HOW STRONG I AM.
HE HE HE..
BUT I DIDN'T THINK RYOU-KENCHAN WOULD BE SO SHOCKED HE WOULDN T DARE HAVE A MATCH WITH ME AGAIN
HE EVEN SAID SOME-THING LIKE "THERE'S NO WAY THAT I CAN DEFEAT USHIWAKA-DONO"

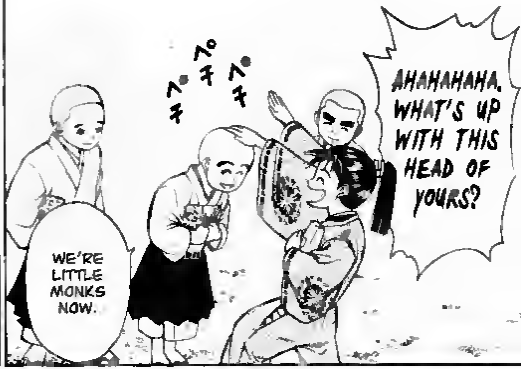
HEY! YOU-!!
OCTOPUS MONK!!
WHOA AAA!!
AAG HHH HH...
YOU DIDN'T DO ANYTHING I TOLD YOU TO! YOU JUST PLAYED AROUND!
WHO IS AN OCTOPUS MONK?
WHAT ARE THE TWO OF YOU FIGHTING ABOUT?
SHA-!

KICCHOUMARU KEPT ORDERING ME TO CHOP THE FIREWOOD AND FETCH WATER ALL DAY LONG,
HELP ME, KAKUJITSU-SAMA!
HE MADE ME DO ALL THIS HARD WORK I'M NOT USED TO DOING!
AHH, KAKUJITSU-SAMA!!
KICCHOU-MARU, DON'T JUST THINK ABOUT HAVING AN EASY DAY ALL THE TIME.
YOU TOO, USHIWAKA.
HMM?
Y YES, TEACHER
.....
HE...HE FOUND OUT ABOUT THAT TOO?
YOU HAVE TO DO THE THINGS THAT HAVE BEEN ASSIGNED TO YOU. THOSE THINGS ARE FOR YOUR TRAINING PURPOSES AS WELL.
YOU CAN'T HANG OUT WITH THE WARRIOR MONKS ALL THE TIME.

TOMORROW IS THE GATHERING FOR THE MONTHLY TRAINING SESSIONS AGAIN
A TRAINING GATHERING?
REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR PEN, INKSTONE, AND INK WITH YOU TOMORROW.
EH?
.....
WHAT IS THAT?
IS THE TRAINING REALLY THAT TERRIFYING?
WHY... WHY THIS REACTION...

MAIN SHRINE
USHIWAKA!!
SO THIS IS THE PLACE WHERE SCARY THINGS ARE ABOUT TO HAPPEN
DANBURI!
NAZUNA!
YAMAA!
AH!

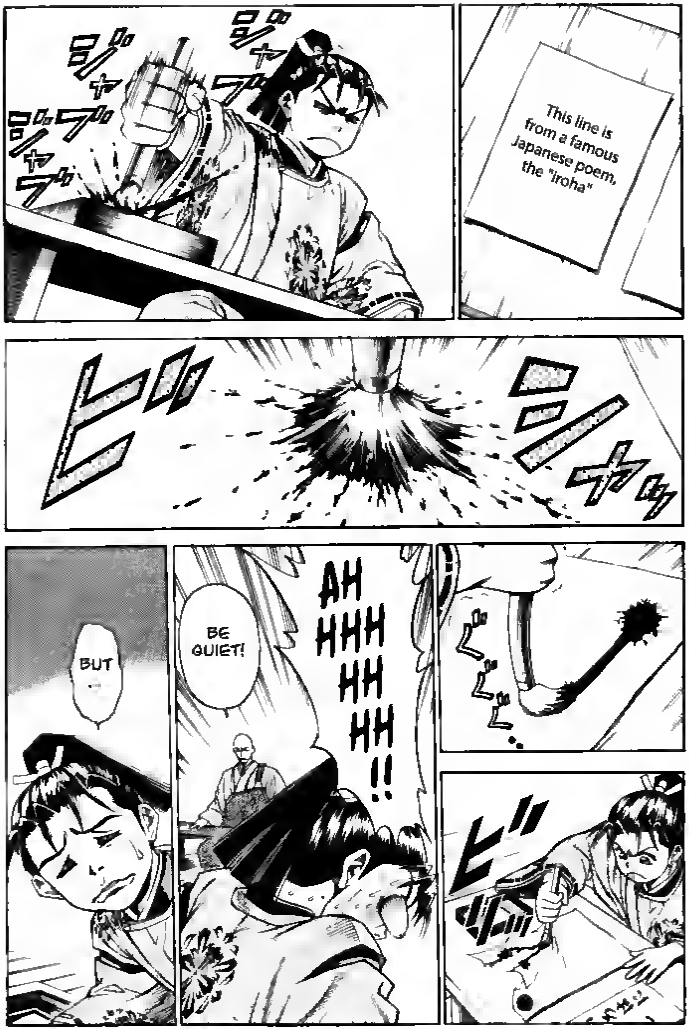




I GUESS YOU MUST MEAN "DANJIKI!!"*
"Dan-kichi"!
I HAVE A HUNCH THAT THIS IS A PLAN TO STARVE ALL OF US AND TURN US TO MUMMIES —I THINK IT'S CALLED

*Note: Danjiki is fasting.

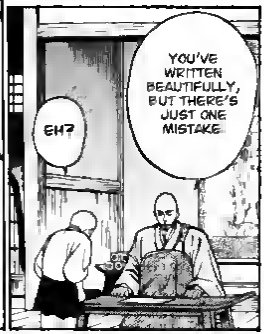
WOW!
THERE' RE ALSO CHILDREN OF THE NOBILITY WITH UNSHAVED HEADS HERE.
NOTHING FRIGHTENING AT ALL.
WHAT'S UP WITH YOU? YOU' RE BEHAVING... SO STRANGELY
BE QUIET! STOP WHISPERING TO ONE ANOTHER!
LOOK AT THE CALLIGRAPHY TEMPLATE OF THIS SCRIPTURE CAREFULLY,
AND TRANSCRIBE IT WITH A PURE HEART.

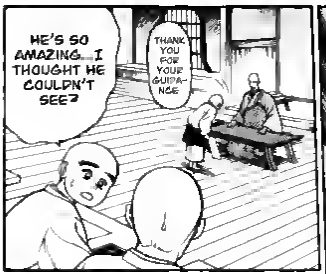

This line is from a famous Japanese poem, the "iroha"
BE QUIET!
AH HHH HH HH!!
BUT ...

I'VE FINISHED THE FIRST PAGE.
I AM AWAITING YOUR GUIDANCE.
WHAT'S UP WITH HIM?
KAKUJITSU-SAMA CAN'T SEE, SO HOW IS HE GOING TO GUIDE HIM?
PLACE IT HERE.
YES, TEACHER.

YOU CANNOT STOP THE STROKE RIGHT HERE FOR THE "GYOU" CHARACTER.
THERE SHOULD BE A HOOKED STROKE AT THAT POSITION.

?


EH?
YOU'VE WRITTEN BEAUTIFULLY, BUT THERE'S JUST ONE MISTAKE.


HE'S SO AMAZING... I THOUGHT HE COULDN'T SEE?
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GUIDA-NCE.

KAKUJI-TSU IS QUITE FORMIDABLE.

I...I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS!
HE CAN READ THROUGH HIS HANDS?!

KAKUJI-TSU-SAMA
I'VE FINISHED AS WELL.
I DON'T THINK I MADE ANY MISTAKES
ALTHOUGH ALL OF THE CHARACTERS ARE COR-RECT,
WE MUST STILL CORRECT YOUR PEN-HOLDING POSITION.
PEN-HOLDING POSITION ?
PEN-HOLDING IS AN ART THAT DOESN'T SIMPLY MEAN HOLDING A PEN IN YOUR HAND...YOU NEED TO HOLD THE PEN STRAIGHT USING JUST THREE OF YOUR FINGERS, KEEPING YOUR WRIST FROM TOUCHING THE PAPER
THEN, BY ADJUSTING THE STRENGTH FROM THE FINGER-TIPS, YOU WILL BE ABLE TO WRITE BEAUTIFULLY.

USHIWAKA...
THIS IS REALLY DIFFICULT! ISN'T IT SUFFICIENT ENOUGH TO WRITE THE CHARACTERS CORRECTLY? DOES IT REALLY MATTER HOW WE HOLD THE PEN?
LIKE... LIKE THIS?
プル
プルプル
WHICH PATH WILL YOU CHOOSE?
THERE ARE TWO PATHS IN FRONT OF YOU. ONE IS FILLED WITH HARDSHIPS AND DIFFICULTY, WHILE THE OTHER IS FILLED WITH PEACE AND RELAXATION.
EH?
THAT IS AN INCORRECT WAY OF THINKING.
NO ONE WOULD PICK THE HARD PATH IF THEY KNEW ABOUT IT IN THE FIRST PLACE
OF COURSE, THE RELAXING ONE.
YOU MUST MUSTER YOUR COURAGE. ONLY WHEN YOU DEFEAT YOUR ADVERSARIES BY YOUR STRENGTH AND PERSEVERANCE
WILL JOYFUL LAUGHTER AWAIT YOU AS THE FRUIT OF YOUR HARD LABOR.
ONLY THINKING OF COMFORT MEANS YOU ARE TRYING TO RUN AWAY FROM REALITY. AT THE END OF THIS PATH, WHAT AWAITS YOU IS ENDLESS REGRET AND SORROW.

THIS IS THE PURSUIT OF ALL KNOWLEDGE. TRY YOUR BEST TO LEARN IT.
ONLY BY ACKNOWLEDGING THIS WILL YOU GET CLOSER TO BUDDHA. THIS IS THE ONLY WAY TO ATTAIN ENLIGHTENMENT,USHIWAKA
THE SAME PHILOSOPHY APPLIES TO THE WAY YOU HOLD YOUR PEN AND CHOPSTICKS; THOSE ARE THE PATHS THAT YOU CAN CHOOSE FOR YOUR LIFE. YOU CAN'T DISREGARD NOR RUN AWAY FROM THEM.
バン
YES, TEACHER!
EVERYONE, I HAVE TO LEAVE FOR A MOMENT. PLEASE CONTINUE PRACTICING QUIETLY.
……
ブル
ブル
ブル
ブル
ブル
ブル
HMM~ IF YOU WRITE LIKE THIS...

WHO WOULD HAVE THOUGHT YOU CAN ACTUALLY CONTINUE WRITING LIKE THIS...
I'LL GO CRAZY!!
DON'T... DON'T TALK TO ME.
?
HEY, WHAT DID THEY WRITE ON THAT PIECE OF PAPER?
HMM? THE HECK? WHO IS IT?

WHAT DID THEY WRITE?
Beggar
GET OUT OF THIS PLACE.
USHI-WAKA, COME HERE FOR A MOME-NT!
BEGGAR? WHO ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

WHAT IS IT? NAZUNA?
UM, USHI-WAKA...
THAT...
I'M NOT THAT CLOSE TO HIM ANYWAY, BUT WHY?
NOT TO GET TOO CLOSE TO KICCHOUMARU...
IT...IT'S BETTER FOR YOU...
DETESTS KICCHOU-MARU
SOUREN, THE KID WHO SITS OVER THERE

SEEMS LIKE SOUREN COMES FROM A POWERFUL NOBLE FAMILY.
HE SAID HE DOESN'T LIKE BEING SAME PLACE WITH A PERSON OF LOW SOCIAL STATUS...

THAT'S ALSO HOW WE LEARNED TO KNEEL OUTSIDE THE TEMPLE.
DIDN'T I TELL YOU SOME TIME AGO THAT THERE WAS A CHILD WHO KNELT OUTSIDE UNTIL HE GOT PERMISSION TO ENTER THE TEMPLE AFTER SEVERAL WEEKS?
SOCIAL STATUS?
HIS PARENTS ABANDONED HIM, SO HE HAD NOWHERE TO GO BESIDES THE TEMPLE. BUT, THAT'S ALSO THE REASON WHY PEOPLE DON'T LIKE HIM.
ALTHOUGH HE HAS BEEN HERE FOR 3 YEARS ALREADY, PEOPLE STILL BULLY HIM.
I HEARD THAT THE FIRST CHILD WAS KICCHOU-MARU.
KICCHOU-MARU?
!!
クスクス
TRASH!
クスクス
FILTH!

HOW DISGRACEFUL!
SOUREN LEARNED SOME INCANTATION FROM THE DISCIPLE OF THE SORCERER, ABE SEIMEI, SO EVERYONE IS REALLY AFRAID OF HIM AND THEY LISTEN TO WHATEVER HE SAYS
THE INCANTATIONS ARE REALLY SCARY.
I'VE HEARD MANY STORIES WHERE PEOPLE WERE KILLED BY THEM
SO IF YOU'RE GETTING TOO CLOSE TO KICHOUMARU..
USHIWAKA..

U...USHI-WAKA?
WHO AAA!!
HMM?

AWE-
SOME-!!
BWAHAHHAHAHA...
KICCHOUMARU
IS GETTING
BULLIED AGAIN!

AHAHAH
AHAHA...
THIS IS
YOUR PUNISH-
MENT FOR
ORDERING
ME AROUND!!
!
AH-

HEY, SOUREN-SAN,
THAT GUY IS AN EYESORE, RIGHT?
EH?
HAHA... YOU THINK SO, TOO?
OF COURSE.
.....
USHI-WAKA...
WE NEED TO KICK OUT FILTHY PEOP-LE LIKE HIM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
HMM?
RIGHT,
BUT...

YOU'RE MUCH WORSE THAN HIM!
ダラダラ
!!!
AHH HHH...
USHI-WAKA

I REALLY DON'T KNOW HOW AWESOME YOU ARE,
WE'RE ALL UNDERGOING TRAINING TOGETHER, SO AREN'T WE COMRADES?
SHUT UP.
YOU...WHAT DID YOU DO?
BUT I CANNOT FORGIVE IF YOU LOOK DOWN ON SOMEONE JUST BASED ON SOME BULLSHIT SOCIAL STATUS!
UWA AAA AAA
....
UH.
HURRY UP!
TEACH HIM A LESSON!
G...GET HIM!

WHAT ARE YOU SQUABBLING ABOUT?

AH...

GO BACK TO YOUR SEATS IMMEDIA-TELY!

HMPH!
YOU'RE LUCKY YOU GOT AWAY THIS TIME.
……
ドカッ
I'LL KILL YOU!
YOU WILL SEE MY WRATH! I'LL CURSE YOU TO DEATH!!

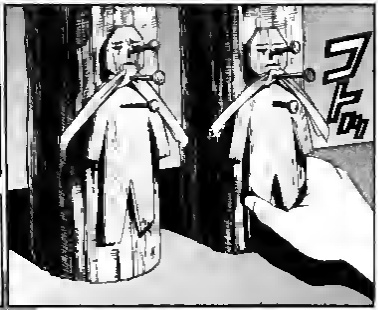
KICCHOU-MARU AND USHIWAKA.
THESE ARE THE PAGES THAT WERE WRITTEN BY...

DID YOU GET IT?
YES.

THE SON OF THE FINANCIAL ADMINIS-TRATOR...
ACTUALLY SIDED WITH THE LOWER CLASS

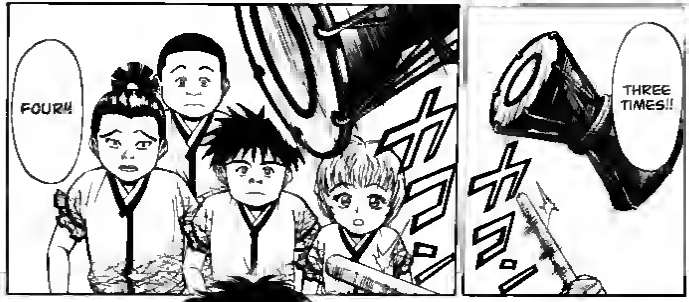
SINCE THAT'S HOW IT IS, THEN, DIE!!

PRAY WHOLE-HEARTEDLY THAT THE TWO OF THEM WILL MEET MANY DANGEROUS ENEMIES!
WE NEED TO LIGHT THE RITUAL FIRE! FOCUS, EVERYONE!


フォン

YES... YES!

ISHIWAKA, KICCHOUMARU, JUST WATCH! YOUR LIVES ARE IN THE PALM OF MY HAND!
ボ!!


FOUR!!
THREE TIMES!!

FIVE...
SO I CAN ONLY SPIN IT FOUR TIMES...
AH...

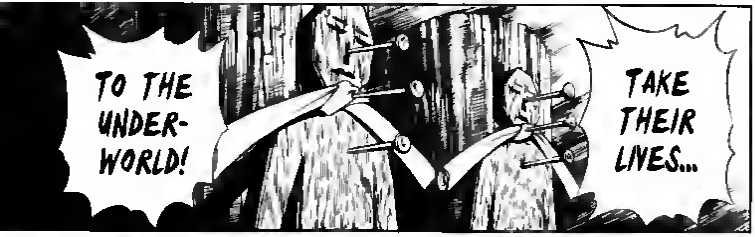
IT'S OKAY, USHIWAKA-SAMA.
IT'S REALLY HARD FOR A NOBLE CHILD TO LEARN ACROBATIC TRICKS...
HOW COULD YOU SAY THAT!
BECAUSE IT'S NOT EASY TO LEARN, THERE'S ALL THE MORE REASON YOU SHOULDN'T SAY THOSE DISCOURAGING WORDS!!
ALTHOUGH I CAN'T SAY THAT I'LL BE ABLE TO DO WHAT HYOUTA DID...
I HOPE TO HELP YOU GUYS OUT, EVEN A LITTLE BIT.
THAT'S RIGHT, IT'S BETTER IF YOU CAN EARN MORE BECAUSE YOU'RE NOT FREELOADING AT MY HOUSE ANYMORE
BUT YOU 'RE JUST DRAGGING US DOWN LIKE THIS!
HEY! AKAHARA!
I THINK YOU SHOULD JUST FOLLOW WHAT HYOUTA SUGGESTED—
GO BACK HOME TO YOUR MOM.

NO, I'M NOT GOING BACK.
IF HYOUTA IS SUFFERING, UNDERGOING TRAINING AT THE TEMPLE, I WON'T GO BACK TO MY EASY LIFE.
CAN YOU GUYS LET ME STAY HERE?
UNTIL HYOUTA CAN LEAVE KURAMA TEMPLE?
WE DON'T REALLY CARE ABOUT THAT
I'LL TRAIN HARD. I WANT TO START PERFORMING WITH THE NOKISHITA GROUP NEXT MONTH.
IF YOU CAN LEARN THE TRICKS, IT WON'T BE A PROBLEM.
BUT YOU HAVE TO GET IT RIGHT!
YAY, USHIWAKA-SAMA, WORK HARD!
YES.
ポーン
HERE WE GO.

ビ
キ
HEY...
ONE—
!!?
THE STICK...
BROKE...
ガラ
ガラ

IT'S NOT SURPRISING THAT THE DIABOLO IS BROKEN..
BUT THROUGH ALL THE TIME HYOUTA HAD BEEN USING IT, IT NEVER HAD A SINGLE CRACK...
COULD THIS BE A BAD OMEN...? DON'T TELL ME THAT SOMETHING IS HAPPENING TO HYOUTA...
HYOUTA...

HEED MY PRAYER, AND GRANT MY WISH...
BRING CALAMITIES TO THESE TWO PEOPLE!


TAKE THEIR LIVES...
TO THE UNDER-WORLD!

ボワ〜ン

BY THE HEAVEN'S DECREE, MY WISH SHALL BE FULLFILLED.

THE FIRE'S GETTING BIGGER!
AHH HH!!
IT'S BURNING; WE HAVE TO GET AWAY!
HURRY! YOU CAN'T LEAVE THIS PLACE IF YOU DON'T PUT IT OUT!
PUT THE FIRE OUT FIRST! IF THE FIRE GETS OUT OF CONTROL, EVERYONE WILL KNOW THAT I HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH IT!
HOLD IT!
FIRE...IS SPREADING! WE'VE TO RUN!
.....

CREAK
CREAK
CREAK
THIS IS BAD! THERE'S NO MORE WATER!
RUN AWAY, EVERY-ONE!
HURRY!!
AHHH! SOUREN-SAN!!

SLEEP HUH?
EH?
STRANGE.. KICCHOU-MARU IS MISSING..
WHERE DID HE GO?
HEY!! KICCHOU-MARU!
PANT
SO YOU'RE HERE
PANT
WHY DID YOU COME?

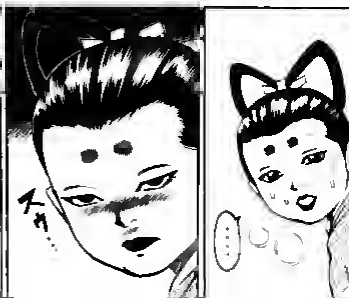
I THOUGHT YOU WENT SOMEWHERE TO HANG YOURSELF BECAUSE YOU GOT BULLIED.
SO I WAS WORRIED ABOUT YOU.
DUM-BASS!!
BUT KICCHOU-MARU, WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY SOME-THING WHEN THEY WERE BULLYING YOU?
JUST TEACH GUYS LIKE HIM A LESSON!
OR IS IT BECAUSE YOU'RE SCARED OF HIS INCANTA-TIONS?
THAT'S NOT IT.
I JUST DON'T WANT GO DOWN TO THEIR LEVEL...
HMM?
WHY NOT? JUST TREAT THEM THE WAY THAT THEY'VE TREATED YOU!
YOU 'RE TOO NOISY.
ISN'T THAT FIRE OVER THERE?

ゴゴゴゴ

THEY MUST BE TRAPPED IN THERE.
THIS IS BAD. SOUUN AND MITSUKI ARE STILL INSIDE.

SOUREN-SAN!

I NEVER EVEN SET FOOT INTO THAT HOUSE AT ALL.
EH?
I WASN'T WITH THEM TO BEGIN WITH...


ﾊｧ...

IT'S THEIR FAULT FOR PLAYING WITH FIRE...
THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME, RIGHT?
SOUREN-SAN...
IF WE DON'T DESTROY THAT HOUSE, I'M AFRAID IT'LL ESCALATE INTO WILDFIRE.
DAMN! THE FIRE IS GETTING TOO BIG. WATER ALONE WILL NOT PUT IT OUT!
SOMEONE... SOMEONE'S TRAPED INSIDE!!
SAVE ME!!!
SAVE-SAVE ME!

……

ボウ…

ゴゴゴゴ…

THE ENTRANCE IS BLOCKED, AND THERE'S NO WAY WE CAN GET INSIDE.

USHIWAKA, WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO?

ザッ
THEN WE'LL JUST HAVE TO JUMP IN THROUGH THAT WINDOW!
WH... WHAT?!
THAT WINDOW IS THE ONLY OPENING, AND IT'S WAY TOO SMALL AN OPENING FOR AN ADULT!
ONLY A CHILD CAN PASS THROUGH...
.....

ARE YOU TELLING ME TO IGNORE THEIR SCREAMS AND LET THEM DIE WITHOUT DOING ANYTHING?
ARE YOU CRAZY? YOU WANT TO DIE?!
AB...ABSURD... WHAT CAN YOU DO, EVEN IF YOU GET INSIDE?
UH...
M...ME?
EH...
BASED ON THE SCREAMS EARLIER, THERE SHOULD BE 2 OR 3 PEOPLE STILL INSIDE
KICCHOU-MARU, DO YOU WANT TO GIVE ME A HAND?
AND IF ONE OF THEM IS INJURED, I CANNOT CARRY THEM OUT BY MYSELF

IT CAN'T BE THAT THEY'RE THINKING OF GOING INSIDE TO SAVE THE OTHERS...
WHAT... WHAT ARE THEY DOING?

バリバリ

GO! GO!
HURRY UP! GET IN AND SAVE THEM!
OTHERWISE, THEY WOULDN'T ACT SO RASHLY LIKE THIS
THE INCANTATIONS HAVE CAUSED THEM TO BE DELUSIONAL..
I SEE... SO MY INCANTATIONS ARE EFFECTIVE
ニヤア

BURY YOURSELF IN THAT OCEAN OF FIRE!
YES, THAT'S IT...
TO BE CONTINUED IN VOLUME 4

祝3巻発売

めでたく第3巻発売された訳ですが
そろそろ…
そろそろホームページあたり
開設しとかないと……。
……しかし沢田先生、忙しくてなかなか
そんな時間作れない……。
ってなコトで私、福島正泰が
作ろうじゃあないか……と。

ホントはこの単行本が出るまでには
……ってコトだったんですが、
私、モー娘。にゲームに忙しく……。
……いや作ります。早急に作ります。
ファンの皆様、もうちょっと
まっててね。

もしかしたらこの本が出る頃には
できてるかも……。

written BY
福島正泰

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by SAWADA Hirofumi /沢田 ひろふみ

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